

OUTGOING MESSAGE

COMINT

Approved For Release 2001/08/08 : CIA-RDP78S01932A000100230111-0

CHANNELS

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CLASSIFICATION

SECRET NFD/MDA/BUO/CD

CIA/OCI/WHI:WH 740429

MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR

DATE-TIME GROUP

CITE

MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

CIA/WHSS

SOURCE REF:

1		4		7		10	
2		5		8		11	
3		6		9		12	

TO: IMMEDIATE WHITE HOUSE//SITUATION ROOM FOR MR MCNAMIS

WARNING NOTICE SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS

INVOLVED **SENSITIVE**

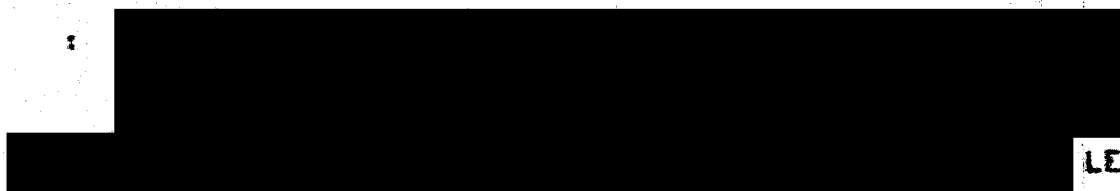
ITEM NO: **WH-4**

DATE: **29 APR 74**

SUBJECT: ETHIOPIAN MILITARY PLANS ACTION AGAINST ENDAKATCHEW GOVERNMENT

25X1A2g

REF :



LEADERS

25X1X4

OF THE MODERATE MILITARY FACTION IN ETHIOPIA PLAN WITHIN THE NEXT WEEK TO INSTALL A MILITARY-CIVILIAN COALITION THAT WILL DISSOLVE THE PRESENT CABINET AND PARLIAMENT AND RULE BY DECREE. THEY INTEND TO KEEP HAILE SELASSIE ON THE THRONE IN A CEREMONIAL POSITION BUT STRIP HIM OF ALL EFFECTIVE POWER. THE LEADERS REPORTEDLY DECIDED ON THIS COURSE OF ACTION BECAUSE OF THE INABILITY OF THE ENDAKATCHEW GOVERNMENT TO COPE WITH THE COUNTRY'S PROBLEMS. THEY ARE ALSO CONCERNED THAT EITHER CONSERVATIVE OR LEFTIST EXTREMISTS WILL ATTEMPT TO EXPLOIT THE PRESENT DISORDER TO

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EDITIONS

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INSTALL THEIR OWN REGIME. THE NEW GOVERNMENT WOULD BE STAFFED BY BOTH THE MILITARY AND CIVILIANS, WITH THE MILITARY OUTNUMBERING THE CIVILIANS BY A SMALL MARGIN.

THE GROUP REPORTEDLY PLANNING THIS MOVE WOULD ALLOW THE CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW COMMITTEE TO CONTINUE ITS WORK. ELECTIONS FOR A NEW PARLIAMENT WILL BE CALLED FOLLOWING THE DRAFTING OF A GROUP CONSTITUTION. THEN/REPORTEDLY WILL IMPLEMENT SOCIALIST DOMESTIC POLICIES AND MAINTAIN A PRO-WESTERN FOREIGN POLICY.

REFLECT ACCURATELY THE GENERAL FEELING AMONG MOST MILITARY MODERATES THAT THE ARMED FORCES WILL HAVE TO PLAY A MORE DIRECT ROLE IN GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS.

THE IDENTITY OF THE SPECIFIC GROUP PLANNING TO ESTABLISH THE MILITARY-CIVILIAN COALITION IS NOT YET KNOWN. NOR IS THE EXTENT OF THE GROUP'S SUPPORT AMONG THE MODERATES. E2 IMPDET.

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